

COMMISSION  
OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 4 november 1974

VDP/je

"PRIORITE P-1"

Given to telex at : 18.00 h

Note BIO (74) 253 to the National Offices (suite 1 et fin)  
c.c. to the Members of the Group and to the Directors General of DG I and X

Subject : Joint Press Conference of Mr Butz and Mr Lardinois. (Continuation)

American meat imports

Questioned about declarations made by President Ford last week, Mr Butz confirmed that the U.S. might have to limit imports of beef. There is indication that tremendous amounts of cattle are building up in Australia and since this country can no longer export to Europe or to Japan because of import bans, it might try to sell more to the American market. Bigger quantities of imported beef in the U.S. are expected in the beginning of 1975. Should they become too big then the U.S. Government might have to apply import restrictions said Mr Butz, adding that the beef crisis was worldwide and had to be dealt with through international concertation.  
Countervailing duties on dairy imports in U.S.

Mr Butz confirmed that the U.S. would have to introduce countervailing duties if the Community would resume paying subsidies on dairy exports to the U.S. These duties will have to be applied on the basis of a law against dumping. Application of that law could be enforced by court action on behalf of the American dairy producers. Mr Lardinois stated that no subsidies are being paid at the moment on butter and milk powder exported to the U.S. Some subsidies were paid on cheese but Mr Lardinois stressed that these did in no way undermine the position of the American producers who get most of their income out of liquid milk whereas the European producer depends much more on processed dairy products.

End

Regards

